

THE PRESIDENT'S INTELLIGENCE CHECKLIST

ISSUED BY THE
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

3 OCTOBER 1963
~~TOP SECRET~~

LATE ITEM

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Honduras

a. Latin America's best advertised coup began on schedule this morning as military [redacted]

[redacted] moved into the capital and are surrounding the palace.

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1. Venezuela

a. President Betancourt is getting into a bind over his crack-down on the left.

b. The right opposition wants more and are watching skeptically to see if he can make even this much stick.

c. If the Supreme Court does not act on his request to outlaw the Communist Party and the Movement of the Revolutionary Left, he will have to release the 150 activists rounded up so far or stand in violation of the constitution.

d. Any backpedalling now could easily bring the military down on him.

2. Syria-Iraq

a. Syria is sending military forces into Iraq, probably to relieve Iraqi troops which could then be used against the Kurds.

b. We expect Iraqi government forces to mount a "final" offensive before the advent of rains in mid-October.

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c. The two Baathi regimes thus have an opportunity to put into practice their declared policy of ever closer collaboration. Iraqi troops were preparing to move into Syria in late August during Syria's border crisis with Israel, but the move was cancelled when the situation calmed down.

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3. Brazil

a. Goulart finally addressed the nation last night, and said nothing except to blame the nation's ills on his detractors from the right.

b. He mentioned no names nor indicated what if any action was planned, confining himself to such generalities as: "The rhythm of the issuance of currency aggravated the painful effects of the inflationary process, the containment of which was seriously handicapped by the contradictions existing in our economic and financial structure."

4. Iran

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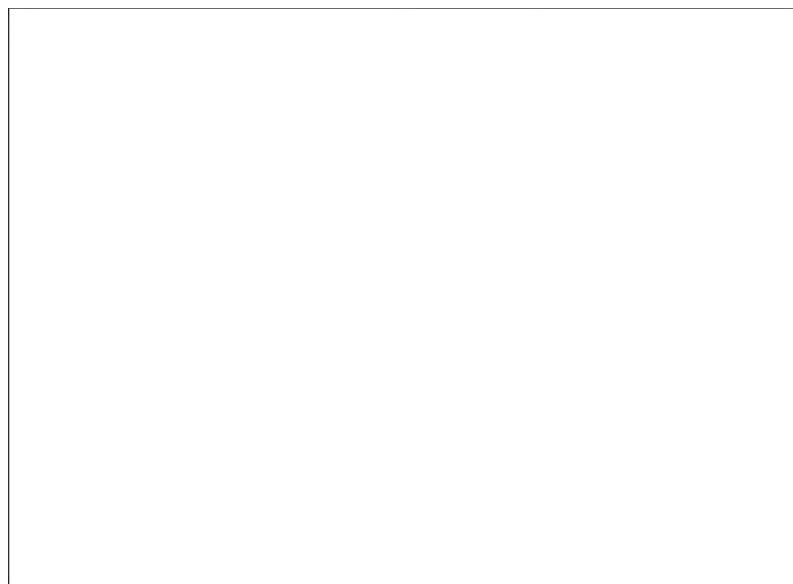
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5. Haiti

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NOTES

- A. Cuba [redacted] tightening of regulations governing flights over Cuba. [redacted]
[redacted]
[redacted]
- B. South Korea With opposition candidates dropping out one by one, the South Korean presidential elections are shaping up into a two-man race between junta leader Pak and former President Yun Po-son whose hard-hitting campaign is attracting increasing attention. The regime had been counting on the opposition's lack of unity to avoid the need for flagrant rigging of the elections, but may now feel it can not afford to let matters take their course.
- C. USSR-US The Soviet press has been cautiously critical for the past two weeks of the President's proposal to cooperate in putting a man on the moon, but has been playing it in very low key. Pravda brought it up for the first time yesterday, however, and implied approval by printing, under the heading of "a sober approach," Walter Lippman's recent favorable column on the subject;
- D. Somalia-USSR Somali army commander Daud, currently in Moscow, has arranged for 110 Somali officers and men to go to the USSR this month for training. Last year, 50 prospective pilots and mechanics, who are to form the nucleus of an air force, went to the USSR for training. [redacted]

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E. USSR trade Not unexpectedly, Soviet pressure for more and longer term commercial credits is increasing. Almost all Western trade missions and commercial representatives in Moscow have encountered it.

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